

FRANKLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

May 7, 2013

Present:

Board Members: Timothy Magnant, Chairperson, Bob Berger, and David Rood.

Administration: Joyce Hakey, Principal, Becky Hart, Business Manager, Lora McAllister, Assistant Business Manager, Dr. McCarthy, Superintendent of Schools.

Others Present: Pierrette Bouchard, School Board Secretary, John Ho of Efficiency Vermont and Curtis Ploof.

Call to Order: Tim Magnant called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Bob Berger made motion to approve the April 1, 2013 board minutes. The board approved the motion 3-0 vote.

Financial Report:

Becky Hart reported that the carryover projection is the same as last month with a small \$2,000 carryover. Becky and Joyce Hakey will go through the expenditures in the anticipated column for savings and revise the carryover projection accordingly. Joyce Hakey reported that the sidewalk quotes are coming in higher than anticipated. Bob Berger made motion to accept the financial report as presented. The board approved the motion on a 3-0 vote.

Check warrants: David Rood made motion to approve the April check warrants totaling \$111,294.77. The board approved the motion on a 3-0 vote.

Resolution of checking account: Becky Hart reported that Sara Rainville will be added to the school checking account as a second signer as well as Becky. Becky will be added in case Sara or Lisa Larivee are unavailable and the school district needs a second signer for a check. The board needs to approve the resolution to add the two signers and the resolution will need to be signed by the board. David Rood made motion to approve the bank resolution as presented and authorize the board chair person, Tim Magnant, to sign the bank resolution in behalf of the school board. The board approved the motion on a 3-0 vote.

Transportation Contract Extension: Becky Hart reported that the transportation contract extension was included in the board packet for the board's review and approval. The contract extends the original 2009-2012 transportation contract by one additional year covering the 2013-2014 school year with a two percent increase. All other provisions contained within the original 2009-2012 contract remains in effect through this one year extension. David Rood made motion to approve the transportation contract extension with the revision from Highgate to Franklin, Vermont and authorized the board chairperson to sign in behalf of the board. The board approved the motion on a 3-0 vote.

Curtis Ploof came in behalf of Little League and inquired if the school had insurance coverage for the baseball fields. The school does have insurance but there is a \$2500 deductible. He requested that there be signs for No Smoking, Please keep your dog on a leash and pick up after it, etc. The school will order the signs. Curtis has spoken to Heath Wright about the field drainage work. They are planning to complete the work after the baseball season has finished. Curtis left the board meeting at 7:30 pm.

John Ho introduced himself as representing Efficiency Vermont on commercial buildings to save electricity. John reviewed the energy efficiency plan that was completed in 2009. There were some things that were enacted but the gym and parking lot lights were not replaced. John has deployed a number of meters to see the school usage. He reviews the consumption and then gets an estimate of the costs to replace them so that he can determine the length of pay back time. The biggest savings the school district could experience would be to replace the exterior wall pack lights. The estimated cost is about \$2,600 with a \$700.00 incentive from Efficiency Vermont with a \$1,000 per year in electrical savings. This would mean a 2.5 year pay back at a 41 percent return on the investment. With the parking lot lights, the estimated cost would be a \$8,100 total project cost with a \$2,500 incentive from Efficiency Vermont or a 4.6 pay back time with approximately a 20% return on investment. He mentioned that it would help save if the school used Smart Strips. The gym lights would not have such a significant savings with a 30 year payback to swap them out but there could be other benefits including saving servicing costs when the bulbs burn out because the lights would last six to ten years as well as brighter lighting. In the kitchen, it would cost the school district \$15,000 to replace the booster heater for the dishwasher with an electrical savings of \$2,000 per year or 6.8 year payback. He also talked about the demand charge and suggestions on what the school could do to reduce the demand charge. He mentioned that the four door refrigerator uses a lot of electricity. Joyce Hakey wanted to thank Steve Ballard for spending a lot of time meeting with John and John for all of his efforts and being so thorough. The board thanked John Ho for all his work. (John Ho left at 8:00pm.)

Principal's Report:

Joyce Hakey congratulated the teachers, the whole school staff, the students and the parents for all their work for the Speech Contest. The winners from the grade 5 daytime contest were 1st- Dylan Goetz, 2nd- Catherine Paradis and 3rd- May Gratton. The Grade 6 evening "Modern Woodmen" speech contest winners were 1st - Paige Greenia, 2nd - Autumn Gratton and 3rd - Hunter Snider-Vaillancourt. There was an incredible amount of spirit with the Penny War. The Penny War donated nearly \$1000.00 due to the Food Shelf. The food shelf is able to triple this amount when obtaining food from the food bank. Kathy Rouleau has been volunteering all year in the 1st grade doing the The Four Winds Nature Program. Joyce gave a handout to the Board. Four Winds reinforces science standards using hands-on lessons to explore the various concepts. A workshop is presented each month by a parent/community volunteer who has been trained. The school can use grant funding available for next year to participate in the Four Winds Institute at no cost to the school. Kathy has offered to be the coordinator of our program and we will be doing Four Winds in grades k-3 as long as we get volunteers. Kathy will have a table at the Spring Concert to explain the program and get parents/community interested in helping. Carrie Toof had a baby boy and will return to school on Memorial Day, May 27th to make up a snow day. Jessica Bourbeau will return on June 12th, she had a baby girl. Donna Sartwell is due in mid June. The Spring Concert is

next Friday night. Sandy Andersen has passed away and had taught in the Franklin School for many years. Her burial is this Friday at the East Franklin church. The school will dedicate the spring concert to Sandy Andersen. They will do three days of testing for NECAP Science this week. The students and staff will be going to school on Memorial Day on May 27th to participate in the parade and Town Hall presentations.

Supt's Report:

FNWSU Meeting: Dr. McCarthy reported that the Franklin Northwest SU board held a goal setting and strategic planning meeting on May 1st. Mary Wood is writing up the goals that were discussed.

Legislative Report: Dr. McCarthy included the report in the board packet.

Swanton Principal: Dena St. Amour is now Swanton's co-principal for Swanton so the Supervisory Union office will be seeking a new Director of Curriculum and Instruction. They are currently seeking a new principal for Highgate.

Other: Joyce Hakey explained that in Franklin/Grand Isle counties, the Vermont State Police have started an "Adopt a School" program with a state trooper being assigned to a specific school to become the liaison with the school to become familiar with school staff and emergency plans, make any recommendations, etc. Joyce has already met with the officer assigned to Franklin and feels that having a contact person for the school could be very helpful.

The next meeting has been scheduled for June 4, 2013 at 7 pm. The next Franklin Northwest SU Board Meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2013 at 7:00 pm.

David Rood made motion to enter executive session at 8:25pm for personnel. The board approved the motion on a 3-0 vote. David Rood made motion to exit executive session at 8:42pm. The board approved the motion on a 3-0 vote. After declaring no further business, Bob Berger made a motion to adjourn at 8:43pm. The board approved the motion on a 3-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Berger, Clerk

by Pierrette Bouchard, School Board Secretary

